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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/666,356	09/20/2000	Daniel J. Parker	HILB/ 609C3	8608

7590 01/17/2003

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EXAMINER

MILLER, WILLIAM L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3677

DATE MAILED: 01/17/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/666,356

Applicant(s)

PARKER, DANIEL J.

Examiner

William L. Miller

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 November 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6, 8-13, 15 and 17-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6, 8-13, 15 and 17-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. If applicant desires priority under 35 U.S.C. 120 based upon a previously filed copending application, specific reference to the earlier filed application must be made in the instant application. This should appear as the first sentence of the specification following the title, preferably as a separate paragraph. The status of nonprovisional parent application(s) (whether patented or abandoned) should also be included. If a parent application has become a patent, the expression "now Patent No. _____" should follow the filing date of the parent application. If a parent application has become abandoned, the expression "now abandoned" should follow the filing date of the parent application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-4, 8-11, 13, 17, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by British Pat. No. 2238062.

4. British '062 discloses a method of memorializing a deceased and/or combination lawn and garden sculpture and cremation remains container comprising: a pedestal 1 having an open first (upper) end, a closed second (lower) end, and at least one wall therebetween; a receptacle 4 receiving the cremated remains removably received in the pedestal, the receptacle including an open first (upper) end, a closed second (lower) end, and at least one wall therebetween; the

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receptacle being a cylinder and including a cover of smaller diameter at the upper end thereof, the cover being inherently removable; an ornament 10, namely a plaque; and an annular gasket being viewed as element 7.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 6, 15, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over British '062 in view of Virginia Metalcrafters "In the Garden" (1997).

7. British '062 discloses the ornament as a plaque as opposed to the ornament being an armillary as claimed by the applicant. Virginia Metalcrafters discloses lawn and garden sculptures including a pedestal supporting an ornament wherein the ornament is an armillary. Therefore, as supported by Virginia Metalcrafters, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the lawn and garden sculpture of British '062 by utilizing an armillary as the ornament for aesthetic purposes. Further, a change in ornamental design having no mechanical function is an aesthetic design consideration within the skill of the art. In re Seid, 161 F.2d 229, 73 USPQ 431 (CCPA 1947).

8. Claims 12 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over British '062 in view of Japanese Pat. No. 408010294.

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9. British '062 fails to disclose the cover including a radially inner cylindrical portion and a radially outer circular lip wherein the inner portion fits within an inside of the upper end of the receptacle/cylinder and the lip fits on an outside of the upper end of the receptacle/cylinder. Japanese '294 discloses a receptacle/cylinder 1 for receiving cremation remains and a cover 2 having a radially inner cylindrical portion and a radially outer circular lip wherein the inner portion fits within an inside of the upper end of the cylinder and the lip fits on an outside of the upper end of the receptacle/cylinder to effectively close the receptacle/cylinder. Therefore, as taught by Japanese '294, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify British '062 by utilizing a cover including a radially inner cylindrical portion and a radially outer circular lip wherein the inner portion fits within an inside of the upper end of the receptacle/cylinder and the lip fits on an outside of the upper end of the receptacle/cylinder thereby enhancing the closure thereof.

Response to Arguments

10. Applicant's arguments have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

11. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PTO-892.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William L. Miller whose telephone number is 703 305 3978. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, J. J. Swann can be reached on 703 306 4115. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703 872 9326 for regular communications and 703 872 9327 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703 308 1113.

William L. Miller
Primary Examiner
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'WLM', written over the printed name and title.

wlm
January 13, 2003